AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for assessing stability of a structure of a project application determining status of a project, the method comprising:

collecting data of the project application, the data being structured as branches and leaves for generating leaf and branch metrics;

wherein the project application is a requirements document;

computing from the project application data the leaf and branch metrics;

computing at least two project application progress parameters based upon the leaf and branch metrics for numerically describing elements of the project application;

computing regression parameters based upon the at least two project application progress parameters wherein the two application project progress parameters are based upon the leaf and branch metrics;

computing correlation coefficients utilizing the regression parameters, the correlation coefficients describing the strength of the correlation of the at least two project application progress parameters with the leaf and branch metrics for indicating the stability of the structure of the project application status of the project;

wherein the branches are representative of structure components of the a requirements document, and the leaves are representative of content components of the requirements document; and

wherein the data of the project application comprises text; and

wherein the steps of computing the at least two project progress parameters, computing the regression parameters, computing the correlation coefficients, and collecting data of the project are performed over a computer network.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the project application progress parameters include at least one of the following:

total number of branches,

total number of leaves,

number of modifications performed on the branches,

number of modifications performed on the leaves,

average age of leaves in the project, and

average age of branches in the project.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the stability of the structure of the project application is determined by utilizing at least one of the following equations:

normal equations used in regression analysis,

slope of the regression model equation,

intercept of the regression model equation, and

correlation coefficient of the regression equation.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

updating at least one database with data records generated from performing statistical analysis on the collected data.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the collecting of data includes at least one of the following steps:

3

reading data from a data file or database; or
receiving data across a network.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising outputting the data records to graphically represent the stability of the structure status of the project application.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method for analyzing stability progress of a structure of a project application, the method comprising:

collecting data of the project application, the data structured as branches and leaves;
wherein the project application is a requirements document;
parsing the data of the project application to produce first data records summarily describing the data of the project application and generating leaf and branch metrics;
computing from the project application data the leaf and branch metrics;
computing second data records based on the first data records, the second data records including statistical data based upon the leaf and branch metrics;
computing third data records, the third data records including statistical results based upon the second data records and being indicative of the stability of the structure progress of the project application;
wherein the third data records are computed using regression analysis, the regression analysis being performed based upon the leaf and branch metrics to facilitate daily project progress assessments and forecast the need for additional resources;
wherein the branches are representative of structure components of the a requirements document, and the leaves are representative of content components of the requirements document; and
wherein the data of the project application comprises text; and
wherein the steps of collecting the data, parsing the data, computing the second data records, and computing the third data records are performed over a computer network.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the collecting of data includes at least one of the following steps:
reading data from a data file or database; or
receiving data across a network.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the second and third data records are stored in a database.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the statistical results are time dependent.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the third data records have a dependent relation between the stability of the structure progress of the project application.

15. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising outputting at least one of the following: the second and third data records.

16. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the first, second, and third data records are structured as objects.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the project application is formatted according to a content markup language format.

18. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising computing correlation coefficients based upon the third data records.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A system for assessing stability of a structure determining status of a project application, the system comprising:
    at least a first processor for executing processes;
    at least a first memory device connected to the at least first processor; and
    a plurality of processes stored on the at least a first memory device, the plurality of processes configured to cause the at least first processor to:
    collect data of the project application, the data being structured as branches and leaves for generating leaf and branch metrics;
        wherein the project application is a requirements document;
    compute the leaf and branch metrics from the project application data;
    compute at least two project application progress parameters based upon the leaf and branch metrics for numerically describing elements of the project application;
    compute regression parameters based upon the at least two project application progress parameters wherein the at least two project application progress parameters are based upon the leaf and branch metrics;
    compute correlation coefficients utilizing the regression parameters, the correlation coefficients describing the strength of the correlation of the at least two project application progress parameters with the leaf and branch metrics for indicating the stability of the structure status of the project application; and
        wherein the data of the project application comprises text; and
    collect wherein the branches are representative of structure components of the a requirements document, and the leaves are representative of content components of the requirements document.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the project application progress parameters include at least one of the following:
    total number of branches,
    total number of leaves,
    number of modifications performed on the branches,
    number of modifications performed on the leaves,
    average age of leaves in the project, and
    average age of branches in the project.

5

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the <u>stability of the structure</u> <u>of</u> the project <u>application</u> status-of-the-project is determined by utilizing at least one of the following equations:

> normal equations used in regression analysis,
> slope of the regression model equation,
> intercept of the regression model equation, and
> correlation coefficient of the regression equation.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the plurality of processes are further configured to cause the at least a first processor to:

> update at least one database with data records
> generated from performing statistical analysis on the collected data.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the at least first processor further collects data by performing at least one of the following:

> reading data from a data file or database; or
> receiving data across a network.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the plurality of processes are further configured to cause the at least a first processor to:

> output the data records to graphically represent <u>the stability of the structure of the</u> <u>project application</u> the status of the project.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) A system for <u>assessing stability of a structure</u> determining status of a project <u>application</u>, the system comprising:

> means for collecting data of the project <u>application</u>, the data being structured as branches and leaves for generating leaf and branch metrics;
> <u>wherein the project application being a requirements document;</u>
> means for computing the leaf and branch metrics from the project <u>application</u> data;
> means for computing at least two project <u>application</u> progress parameters based upon the leaf and branch metrics for numerically describing elements of the project <u>application</u>;
> means for computing regression parameters based upon the at least two project <u>application</u> progress parameters wherein the two project <u>application</u> progress parameters are based upon the leaf and branch metrics;
> means for computing correlation coefficients utilizing the regression parameters, the correlation coefficients describing the strength of the correlation of the at least two project <u>application</u> progress parameters with the leaf and branch metrics for indicating the stability of the <u>structure of the</u> project <u>application</u>; and
> <u>wherein the data of the project application comprises text; and</u>
> wherein the branches are representative of structure components of <u>the</u> a requirements document, and the leaves are representative of content components of the requirements document.

6